



Douglas R. Conant
President and Chief Executive Officer

Campbell Soup Company
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June 18, 2008

The Honorable Charles Grassley
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

Thank you for your invitation to meet regarding the relationship between US biofuels policies and their impact on commodity and food prices. Regrettably, I am unable to attend.

In my stead, however, the Grocery Manufacturers Association and a number of other organizations with similar concerns plan to participate. I also understand GMA will extend to you an invitation to attend the November meeting of the GMA Board of Directors, where we can have a full and productive discussion regarding our nation's energy policy.

As you know, GMA is working with many farm organizations, including the National Turkey Federation, the National Chicken Council, and the National Cattleman's Beef Association, to improve our federal food-to-fuel policies by accelerating the development of biofuels made from crop wastes and other energy feedstocks. Many experts have concluded that cellulosic biofuels hold enormous promise and will not pit our energy needs against the needs of food companies, livestock farmers and consumers. The Campbell Soup Company strongly supports biofuel policies that boost the income of farmers and simultaneously meet the needs of food companies and consumers.

In light of growing prices for corn and other commodities, we support policies that will reduce the use of food and feed crops to produce fuels. Although there are many factors contributing to rising commodity prices, federal policies that divert one-third of the U.S. corn crop is the only factor legislators have the power to change. Recent studies by the World Bank, the United Nations, and America's leading agricultural think tanks have linked rising commodity prices to these federal food-to-fuel policies.

Again, I thank you for your kind invitation to join you and Secretary Schaffer to discuss these concerns and regret that I am unable to attend. If appropriate, I would be happy to offer Kelly Johnston, Campbell's Vice President - Government Affairs, whom you know, to represent our company. The Campbell Soup Company looks forward to working with you and all interested parties to craft sensible and sustainable energy policy.

Sincerely,

D. R. Conant